

training, student loans, school-to-work transition, vocational and adult education, and the like—but these are targeted for deep cuts by Speaker Gingrich.

LOOKING AT OVERALL IMPACT

Certainly some aspects of the Speaker's budget package are reasonable. Reducing the deficit and bringing the budget into balance is clearly a good idea, and several of the specific items in his overall package make sense, such as selling off unneeded government assets and trimming congressional pensions.

I also don't want to suggest that we should be anti-rich or that we should protect every program for the poor. Various federal programs, no matter how well intentioned, have not worked, and we need to recognize that they need to be dropped or overhauled.

Taken one by one, some of the Gingrich proposals do make sense and can be supported. But we need to look at the overall impact of his budget and tax policies taken as an entirety. The clear impact is to give more to those who already have a lot and to take away from struggling Americans. That simply doesn't make sense. It calls into question the basic fairness of government policy and aggravates one of the most worrisome trends in recent decades—the growing income inequality between rich and poor.

CONCERNS ABOUT INCOME INEQUALITY

This trend of worsening income inequality is a concern for several reasons.

First, it is divisive. When the gap between rich and poor grows too wide and increasing numbers of people feel that America is no longer a land of opportunity for them, the social fabric of the country is at risk. Those at the bottom may begin to feel they have less of a stake in our society's continuance. Some have called the growing income inequality the greatest threat to America's well-being. Second, it hinders economic growth. As those less well-off get poorer and fall farther behind, that reduces their access to education and training and their opportunities for improvement. And that in the end means that the nation as a whole is worse off because growth of the U.S. economy is held back by a less qualified workforce. I frequently hear from Hoosier businesses that inadequately trained and educated workers are a major impediment to growth and increased profits. Third, abandoning those less well-off just isn't what America should be about. One of the things that impressed me most about the Pope's recent visit to the U.S. was his challenge to Americans to be more concerned about the poor. He wanted to know if America is becoming less sensitive and less caring toward the poor, the weak, and the needy—in short, less fair.

CONCLUSION

President Clinton has vowed to veto the Gingrich proposals in their current form, so there is some hope that they can be moderated and the burdens and benefits shared more fairly. Our government should help upper-income people do better but it should also help lower- and moderate-income people do better too. Our nation's strength does not lie just in the top 1% or 5% or 10% of Americans but in the top 100% of Americans. Every American should have an equal chance at the starting line. We need to ensure the traditional American promise that hard work will be rewarded, opportunity will be promoted for all, and mobility to move up the ladder will be sustained. That is what is right for America and its future.

THE UNITED NATIONS: 50 YEARS OF MISMANAGEMENT

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the United Nations has been spending money more carelessly than even the spend thrift Democratic Congresses of the past 40 years. The United Nations' own inspector general has found \$16 million in waste and fraud in this not-so-venerable organization.

In addition to the waste and fraud, the United Nations heaps lavish salaries and perks on its employees. The average computer analyst at the United Nations, for example, makes \$111,500 per year, has 30 days paid vacation, receives a generous housing subsidy, and an education grant of \$12,765 per child tax-free. In addition they receive the most unbelievable pension I have ever heard of: Employees contribute 7.9 percent of their salary, while the United Nations kicks in another 15.8 percent. The pension plan can give entry-level staffers who work for 30 years nearly \$2 million.

For some perspective, Mr. Speaker, the average computer analyst in the New York area makes a whopping \$54,664 less than his U.N. counterpart, with 12 days less vacation, and of course, no housing subsidy nor education grant. And to be candid, Mr. Speaker, the non-U.N. computer analyst probably works a lot harder. Why? Because the analyst in the private sector is determined to make a profit.

The United Nations will have a much easier time obtaining payments from hard-working American taxpayers once their salaries are made comparable to those in the real world. I would like to insert into the RECORD a recent article in Money magazine that discusses the cushy life of U.N. staffers.

IT'S THE U.N.'S 50TH BIRTHDAY, BUT ITS EMPLOYEES GET THE GIFTS

For months, the United Nations has been celebrating its 50th anniversary—the actual date is Oct. 24—even as many Americans are blasting the organization for being a colossal waste of money. Critics might be even more disgusted if they knew just how much the U.N. spends to pamper its 14,380 employees, roughly one-third of whom work in New York City. In addition to their pay, which is free of all taxes, and lavish perks (see the table at right), U.N. workers have a generous pension plan: All staffers contribute 7.9% of their salary, while the U.N. kicks in another 15.8%. That means many entry-level U.N. staffers whose pay rises only as fast as inflation can retire in 30 years with \$1.8 million, assuming that the pension fund earns around 8% annually, according to Michael Chasoff, a Cincinnati financial planner. At a 4% inflation rate, that's \$558,533 in today's dollars. (Employees may take a lump sum or annuitize.)

Here's the icing on the birthday cake: Shielded by diplomatic immunity from niggling local laws, high-ranking U.N. officials enjoy what many New Yorkers consider the best perk of all: free parking.

TAKE A LOOK AT THE CUSHY LIFE OF U.N. STAFFERS

[The table below compares the annual salary and benefits of a New York City-based U.N. employee with kids to those of his non-U.N. counterpart.]

Job	Salary	Vacation	Housing subsidy	Education grant
U.N. mid-level accountant.	\$84,500	30 days	80% of rent payments exceeding 26% of salary.	\$12,675 per child tax-free
Average mid-level accountant.	41,964	16 days	None	None
U.N. computer analyst.	111,500	30 days	80% of rent payments exceeding 26% of salary.	12,675 per child tax-free
Average computer analyst.	56,836	18 days	None	None
U.N. Assistant Secretary-General.	190,250	30 days	80% of rent payments exceeding 26% of salary.	12,675 per child tax-free
New York City mayor.	130,000	Not specified	Housing provided by New York City.	None
U.N. Secretary-General.	344,200	Not specified	Housing provided by U.N.	12,675 per child tax-free
U.S. President.	200,000	Not specified	Housing provided by the federal government.	None

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF DAVID GANGWER

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding law enforcement officer and citizen of Ohio. On November 15, 1995, Sandusky County Sheriff David G. Gangwer will be sworn in as president of the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association. This selection is a tribute to all the talent, intellect, and hard work that have made Sheriff Gangwer an outstanding police officer and a tremendous example to others.

In a time when Americans are deeply concerned about the effects of crime on our society, we owe a special debt of gratitude to people like David Gangwer who have bravely served on the front line in the fight against crime. Sheriff Gangwer has demonstrated a remarkable dedication to performing his duties and obligations with the utmost efficiency and competence. As sheriff, he has placed the wellbeing and safety of the community above all else.

Time and time again, Sheriff Gangwer has been willing to take on the tough problems. His fight against drug abuse has won accolades from all quarters. He has received commendations from Ohio's Lieutenant Governor, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the U.S. Department of Justice for his outstanding contributions to law enforcement and his pioneering efforts in educating children to the perils of drug abuse.

I can think of no better message to send than drug abuse prevention. I have often said that the best way to stop alcohol and drug abuse is through education. When all of our children get the message about the evil of drugs, America's future will be safer.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Sheriff Gangwer's record of personal accomplishments and wishing him well in his position of president of the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association.